GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2852
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2016
Conference on Minority Affairs
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conference of Ministers and Secretaries of States dealing with Minority Affairs was held recently;

(b) if so, the number of States which represented with the Ministers and Secretaries and who did not turn up;

(c) whether States are paying less attention on welfare of minorities;

(d) if so, whether the funds provided to States for this purpose during the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan periods have not submitted utilisation certificates;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to encourage States to utilise funds meant for welfare of minorities well in time?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)
(a) Yes, Madam. A National Conference under the Chairpersonship of the then Minister of Minority Affairs was held on 05.04.2016 with the Ministers and Secretaries of Minority Welfare of all States /UTs to review implementation of the schemes/programmes for the welfare of minorities in different States/UTs in 2015-16 and to formulate strategies alongwith the State Governments for their better implementation in 2016-17.

(b) Ministers/Secretaries/Additional Secretaries/Principal Secretaries and other officers from 20 States/UTs attended the Conference. Representatives from 16 States/UTs did not attend the Conference.

(c) to (f) Under the Multi sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) , projects are approved on the basis of the project proposals received from the States/UTs as per their requirement and felt need. Different types of projects have been approved for different State/UTs at different occasions. As such, the submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) for projects becomes due in accordance with the date of release of their 1stinstallment. So far projects worth Rs.8,228.27 crore have been approved for States/UTs during the period of 11th& 12th Five Year Plan. The States/UTs are regularly submitting Utilization Certificates for the projects sanctioned by Ministry. However, it is an ongoing process and the current status of UCs due from the States is at Annexure-I. To ensure the timely submission of Utilization Certificates and release of further due instalment, the Ministry has been requesting the States/UTs to expedite the utilization of funds by early execution of projects through letters, visits and meetings at appropriate level.
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